

**MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE & FARMLAND PRESERVATION COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 25, 2008**

At 7:42 PM, Ms. Butch called the meeting to order.

The Secretary read the Adequate Notice.

Roll Call

Present: Butch, Kau, Kuczinski, Romano, Schloss, Siedman

Absent: Alves, Blanco, Denardo, Morelli

Public Comment

The public comment portion of the meeting was opened at 7:43 PM and with no public in attendance was closed at 7:43 PM.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Kuczinski with a second offered by Ms. Schloss to approve the August 21st minutes. Roll call vote: Ayes: (3) Kuczinski, Schloss, Butch; Nays: (0)

Correspondence

- ❖ Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders/MCADB memorandum dated 9/17/08 re: Monmouth County Comprehensive Farmland Plan – Target Farm List Update: Ms. Butch explained that the previously submitted list has been amended to include additional farms in Millstone and project area designations; Millstone has 3 different project areas: Roosevelt-Northern Millstone, Millstone-Manalapan-Freehold and Upper Freehold-Western Millstone; there are several farms in each of the three project areas that meet the minimum state requirement of 25 acres.

Old Business

❖ **Trails**

- **Industrial Park:** nothing new to report
- **Boss Winds/County Road crossing:** nothing new to report
- **Permitted uses on existing deeded easement trails:** nothing new to report
- **\$25K Recreational Trail Grant:** a letter was received from the State approving the \$25K recreational trail program grant; the money goes to Millstone Township and will be used to clear, mark and delineate the deeded 10 miles of trail that begins at Perrineville Lake Park/Baird Road and goes through to the Assunpink; the State requires an additional 20% of either in-kind labor or cash; the in-kind labor can be provided by the DPW

New Business

❖ **Budget for 2009**

- Ms. Butch asked Council members for any specific budget needs for 2009; at this time budget needs include printing and postage for three issues of the newsletter and budget for seminar expenses such as the annual New Jersey land rally
- Mr. Kuczinski agreed to contact Ms. D'Andrea regarding the preparation of the 2009 budget; questions regarding the budget include: can budgeted funds be moved between line items once the budget is approved?

- Council budget goals must be presented to Ms. D'Andrea by the end of November
- ❖ **The New Jersey's 13th Annual Land Conservation Rally** will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2009

Events

- ❖ **Millstone Day 2008 Review**
 - Ms. Butch thanked everyone for their hard work and for making the day a success
 - The majority of public interest was in the new County trails and many people took flyers of the trail maps
 - There were more agricultural than open space questions, possibly because of the farm market picture display
 - Ms. Siedman explained that, due to the sale of the company, this is the first year that a fee of \$100 has been charged for the use of the money booth
 - The Council could have used additional help running the money booth which was very busy the entire day
 - The fee charged for the mechanical bull was \$5.00 per ride (for no more than a two-minute ride) and \$1.00 for 30 seconds in the money booth
 - A total of \$660 was earned with approximately \$410 from the bull ride and \$250 from the money booth
- ❖ **Millstone Day 2009**
 - A motion was made by Mr. Romano to submit applications to the Recreation Department for both the OS&FP and Agricultural Advisory Councils for 2009 requesting the same location provided the event will be held at Frogbridge; a second was offered by Ms. Siedman and all in favor
 - At this time the plan is to have the mechanical bull ride and money booth again
 - Mr. Kuczinski offered to contact both St. Joseph's Church and Notre Dame High School to recruit students who need to complete community service hours for assistance with Open Space Millstone Day activities; the Secretary will prepare a letter explaining how the Open Space program works and requesting acceptance of Millstone Day volunteer hours as community service hours for both school programs
 - Mr. Kuczinski offered to sponsor the money booth in 2009
 - Ms. Siedman will contact Dancing DJs regarding the money booth rental fee for 2009 and will also look into purchasing a used money booth

Committee Reports

- ❖ **Finance**
 - **Open Space Trust:** Account activity for January through August 2008 was reviewed with discussion regarding the following:
 - Ms. Butch questioned the appropriateness of using the Trust rather than the operating budget for the conservation easement monuments because this has nothing to do with preserving land
 - The newsletter charge of \$782.50 that occurred in May should be charged to the operating budget
 - Mr. Kuczinski will address Trust account activity questions

- **Operating Budget:** previously discussed and will be discussed further next month
- ❖ **Preservation Signage**
 - The new acreage number is 6,008
 - The signs have been ordered
 - The new number will be placed over the original number of 3,424 with a slash through the previous number of 5,140
- ❖ **Public Relations/Publications - Fall Edition of the Newsletter:** A draft of the newsletter was provided for review with the following adjustments to be made:
 - The “Long-term Open Space Funding Needed” article will be moved from the top of page 2 to the bottom of page 3
 - The Watershed Association article will be moved from the bottom of page 3 to the top of page 2
 - The following sentence will be included with the picture of the sign on the former Lee property: “A recreation ad-hoc committee has been formed to plan the future of the park.”
- ❖ **Legislative Awareness**
 - Mr. Romano explained that the horse racing industry will be receiving the \$90M package from the casino industry
- ❖ **Stewardship**
 - **GIS Program:** Millstone is ahead of other towns in the State regarding stewardship of properties; Millstone is also participating in discussions about the direction the State will be taking with stewardship
- ❖ **Watershed Council:** Ms. Schloss hasn’t been contacted regarding a meeting; nothing to report
- ❖ **Recreation Planning Committee:** The Committee will be meeting for the first time next week
- ❖ **Review Planning Board and Board of Adjustment Applications**
 - D. Morgan Tracey/353 Sweetman’s Lane, LLC: nothing to report
 - CKV Realty/Burnt Tavern Road: nothing to report
 - St Joseph’s Church/Stillhouse Road: tabled by BoA pending County review of road access
 - Shelly’s School for Dogs/Burnt Tavern Road: originally turned down by the BoA; a request to be reconsidered has been submitted

At 8:44 PM, a motion was made by Mr. Romano to move to executive session with a second offered by Mr. Kuczinski and by unanimous vote the Council moved to executive session.

At 9:20 PM, having no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Romano with a second offered by Ms. Schloss and by unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Maher